

Regarding claim 16, the Examiner contends that Itakura discloses “first and second eccentric parts operably opposing each other about a rotation center of said crankshaft,” as required in claim 16. Itakura includes a pair of eccentric sections 12A, 12A of crank shaft 12 (*see*, Itakura, column 7, line 14, for the embodiment shown in Fig. 3), but does not disclose their relationship to each other. At best, the invention disclosed in Itakura motivates one of ordinary skill in the art to provide one bell crank 28 with two sets of upper arms 28A, 28A attached to two eccentric sections 12A, 12A with two connecting rods 11, 11. Given that configuration, the two eccentric sections 12A, 12A must operate with each other and not opposing each other. Thus, Itakura does not disclose two eccentric parts operably opposing each other about a rotation center of said crankshaft, as set forth in claim 16.

Furthermore, regarding claim 16, Itakura does not disclose “said connecting rods effective to transfer said driving displacement to said middle links at said second ends” and “said upper links operably joined to said middle link at a center fulcrum point between said first and second ends.” However, the Examiner contends that the link that serves as Itakura’s middle link includes second connection pin 23 (serving as a fulcrum point, as contended by the Examiner). However, Itakura's links (lower arm 8B or middle link 6) that connect to the second connection pin 23 do not connect to Itakura's connecting rod 11, as set forth in claim 16. Thus, Itakura does not disclose connecting rods effective to transfer the driving displacement to the second ends of the middle links, as set forth in claim 16.

Regarding claims 6 and 16, the Examiner further contends that Itakura discloses “a center fulcrum point on said first middle link” as set forth in the claimed invention. However, Itakura does not disclose a link with a center fulcrum point and also does not disclose a link connected to a center fulcrum point of another link.

Thus, for at least the aforementioned reasons, Itakura fails to disclose all of the elements of the present invention, as set forth in claims 6 and 16.

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Claims 17 and 18 depend from claim 16 and are therefore also patentable over Itakura for at least the same reasons. Additionally, regarding claim 17, Itakura does not disclose a single adjusting means "permitting adjustment of a stroke of said slide," as set forth in the claimed invention. As described above with reference to claim 1, Itakura does not disclose that the stroke of the slide is adjustable. Thus, for at least the aforementioned reasons, Itakura fails to disclose all of the elements of the present invention, as set forth in claims 6 and 16-18.

Based on the foregoing, the rejections of claims 6 and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.


CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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